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Security Council

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Identical letters dated 12 June 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, and in reference to the identical letters dated 9 June 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian regime to the United Nations addressed to you (S/2015/418), I should like to clarify the following points:

The State of Qatar categorically rejects the fraudulent claims contained in the letter, through which the Syrian regime is desperately trying to disseminate lies and spread accusations willy-nilly, in the belief that such a stratagem will push States supportive of the Syrian people, such as Qatar, to alter positions rooted in international law and the Charter of the United Nations. In keeping with the principled and firm position that it has taken since the start of the Syrian revolution, my country will continue to employ all legal means to stand with the Syrian people against the barbaric violations that are being committed against it by the very regime that is supposed to be responsible for its protection.

In previous letters addressed to the Secretary-General and the Security Council, the State of Qatar has taken care to rely on reports and documents issued by United Nations humanitarian and human rights bodies detailing the suffering inflicted on the Syrian people by the Syrian regime. By contrast, the approach adopted by the Syrian regime demonstrates the low regard in which it holds the international consensus on the Syrian issue and reflects its disconnect from reality in both Syria and the global arena. It has become incapable of facing the irrefutable reality, namely that its crimes against its citizens are being increasing rejected by the global community, and that it is isolated domestically, regionally and internationally.

The regime's letters to the United Nations are full of false accusations and fraudulent claims against States that are well known for respecting international law, supporting the international community's approach and standing with the Syrian people in its time of trouble. The letters are merely a continuation of the regime's previous pathetic efforts, which are fooling no one and will not divert attention from the enormity of the humanitarian tragedy being suffered by Syrians since 2011.

The crimes committed by the Syrian regime have been amply documented by international organizations. That makes it all the more repugnant that the regime continues to deny its vicious and indiscriminate use of such internationally prohibited weapons as chemical weapons and barrel bombs against civilians, and its

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support for various terrorist groups, which includes air cover for advances on the ground.

Notwithstanding its horrifying record of vicious crimes, the regime presumes to pass judgment on the policies of Member States of the United Nations and the Security Council. It dispenses false accusations and fraudulent claims while itself engaging in the worst forms of terrorism against its own citizens and exposing regional and global security and stability to manifold dangers for which all will pay the price. Its conduct is a blatant affront to United Nations resolutions, international law, international human rights law and human rights.

The Security Council, the Member States of the United Nations and the Secretary-General are well aware that the State of Qatar has taken positive and constructive positions and worked to resolve disputes through peaceful means and preserve international peace and security. The Syrian regime's futile efforts will not deter the State of Qatar from pursuing those constructive efforts, which are based on international law and the Charter of the United Nations. My country will continue to support the Syrian people on that basis, in keeping with its firm and steadfast commitment to United Nations resolutions, international law and the Charter of the United Nations. It will work for a political solution based on the Geneva communiqué of 30 June 2012 that will spare Syrian lives, preserve the unity and sovereignty of Syria, ensure that those responsible for crimes against the Syrian people are held accountable, and avert the regional and global threats stemming from the Syrian regime's crimes.

The Syrian regime has persistently and blatantly violated international law, international humanitarian law and human rights. Its ongoing repulsive crimes against the Syrian people show contempt for United Nations resolutions, and its support for terrorist groups in Syria poses a threat to regional and global security and stability. The Security Council must therefore respond resolutely and swiftly in order to protect the Syrian people, bring those responsible for the crimes against them to international justice, and preserve international peace and security in accordance with the mandate of the Security Council under the Charter of the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and circulated as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Alya Ahmed Saif **Al-Thani**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative